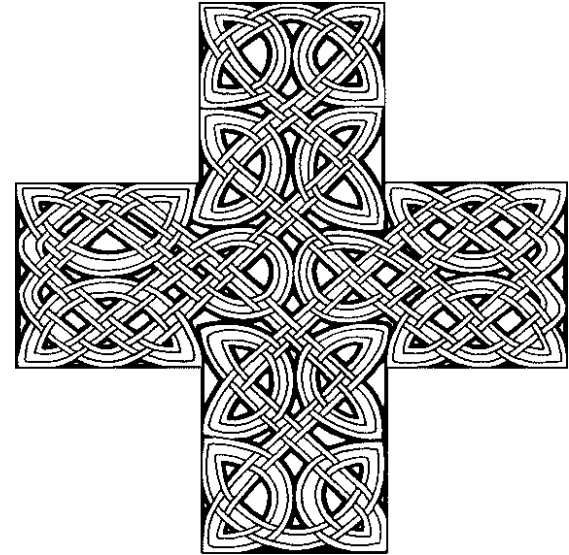


A Liturgy in CELTIC Style



*collected and arranged by Fr. Walter Draeger for use at
GRACE Episcopal Church on October 20, 2012*

Service material for celebrant, lector etc. will be in this
normal type style.

Congregational responses etc. will be in "bold" type

Service directions will be in italics

DURING THE PROCESSION

The God of love is with us.

The Spirit of love is in us.

Creator, Father of all, giver of life, you give us love, you give us yourself.

Help us to give our lives, our love, ourselves to you.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

We will light a light in the name of God.

Who is the Creator of all life.

We will light a light in the name of the Son.

Who gives us new life.

We will light a light in the name of the Spirit.

Whose presence makes all creation holy.

A HYMN OF PRAISE FOR THE SEASON

The Lord of Creation be with you.

And also with you.

In the beginning God created the heavens and earth and God said, "Let there be light!"

Let the light and the dark bless you, O Lord, for you are the God of all creation.

The winds of new beginning stirred and the deep and everlasting waters flowed.

Let the winds and the waters bless you, O Lord, for you are the God of all creation.

God created the earth and the earth grew green, green with trees and fields and valleys.

Let the mountains and hills, the fields and the valleys all join to bless you, O Lord, for you are the God of all creation.

My friends, let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, for calling us together this evening and for sustaining us with this Holy Meal. This place is sacred, this time is sacred, and in this place and in this time we have shared a mystery. May we in every place and time recognize the sacredness of life and may we accept the mystery as we accept your love. With joyful faith and eternal hope, in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world, we extinguish the lights that here represent the presence of the Holy in our midst.

But we will carry the light in our hearts, and we pray that as we go about our work in the world, we will shine with the love of God. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love and make haste to be kind; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

(as the celebrant, the acolytes, the crucifer, and cup-bearer leave the altar, the congregation is dismissed)

Alleluia, alleluia, let us go forth into the world rejoicing. It is Christ who goes before us.

THANKS BE TO GOD. ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Bless us with your Holy Spirit, O God, and this bread and wine, that through them we may be made strong again with the strength that only you can supply. May our inner selves be nourished that in the outward things of life, we may follow the way of Christ, and grow more and more into salvation; through Christ by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours Almighty God world without end. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, so we now pray,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

He who was with God in the beginning is with us in this bread.

He of whom the prophets spoke now speaks to us in this cup.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God, and you are the people of God.

THE COMMUNION

(All are invited to share God's Holy Communion. You may stand or kneel at the altar rail as is your custom. After all have received and the communion vessels cleaned and the altar put in order, the celebrant invites us to offer thanks)

The great light ruled the day and the gentle light ruled the night and they guided the seasons and marked the days and years.

Let the sun and moon praise you, O Lord, for you are the God of all creation.

The waters brought forth living creatures and the creatures filled the seas, roamed the earth, and rose up to the sky.

Let the birds and the fish, the dogs and cats, the cows and ostriches and giraffes all praise you, O Lord, for you are the God of all creation.

God formed humans in His own likeness, and so we carry your life within us, O Lord.

Let the people all praise you, and let every thing that can sing bless your Name, O Lord, for you are the God of all creation.

A PRAYER FOR THE 21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.

May our hearts and minds be open to you, O Lord.

A Reading from the book of Job

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely

you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?"

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 104: 1-9, 25, 37b (*responsively, men and women*)

Bless the Lord, O my soul; *

O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness! you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

You wrap yourself with light as with a cloak *

and spread out the heavens like a curtain.

You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters above; *

you make the clouds your chariot;

you ride on the wings of the wind.

You make the winds your messengers *

and flames of fire your servants.

You have set the earth upon its foundations, *

so that it never shall move at any time.

You covered it with the Deep as with a mantle; *

the waters stood higher than the mountains.

At your rebuke they fled; *

at the voice of your thunder they hastened away.

They went up into the hills and down to the valleys beneath, *

to the places you had appointed for them.

You set the limits that they should not pass; *

they shall not again cover the earth.

O Lord, how manifold are your works! *

in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Hallelujah!

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must

live in the spirit as you are Spirit, we join in the song of your unending greatness.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of all power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

(You may stand, sit or kneel as is your custom, for the prayer of blessing)

Blessed are you, O God, for the great day of salvation prepared from the beginning of the world, when Christ, though rejected on earth, will be seen by all to be chosen and precious in your sight. We bless you for Christ who carried his body to the tree to shatter sin's destructive power that we and all people might be set free. Through Christ you inspire the hope in us that earth's forces of darkness will be scattered and angels of glory and principalities of light will bring a new heaven and a new Israel.

Just as prophets long before Christ had spoken of the suffering that would be his, so Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying "TAKE, EAT, THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU. DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME".

In the same way, he took the wine and having given thanks for it he poured it out, and gave the cup to his disciples saying, "THIS CUP IS THE NEW COVENANT IN MY BLOOD. DO THIS AS OFTEN AS YOU DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME".

Remembering his eternal self-giving, we proclaim the mystery of Christ among us. Made one with him and thus one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

THE OFFERING

All things are yours, O God of creation,
and so we return our gifts to you.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation, through whose
goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given
and human hands have made.

May it become for us the Bread of Life.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation, through whose
goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and the
work of human hands.

May it become for us the Cup of Blessing.

Receive these gifts, dear God, and accept in them the sacrifice
of ourselves.

In life and death may we be an offering to you for ever.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We offer you praise and hearts lifted high, O God, by whose
word the heavens were formed and the earth was brought
forth from the waters. You breathed into us your Spirit and by
the blowing of the gentle breeze you remind us of that Spirit.
The reflection of your glory breathes in each created thing,
and though earth's flowering fades, you plant within us
imperishable seeds for our salvation and call life out of death
into the light that endures for ever.

And so with heaven and earth's host of light, with sainted
women and men of every nation, and with those who now

offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people.
And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only
when called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not
glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the
one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you";
as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according
to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered
up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one
who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of
his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned
obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect,
he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,
having been designated by God a high priest according to the order
of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Let us greet the Gospel of Christ (*all stand*)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, Lord Christ

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him
and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we
ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for
you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand
and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do
not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I
drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"
They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that
I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am
baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my
left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been
prepared." When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with
James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know
that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers
lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it
is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among
you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among
you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served
but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

A CELTIC CREED (to be said in unison, standing)

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.

We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present, and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.

A PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Blessed are you, O God, for the silence at the heart of creation from which the sounds of joy and gladness come forth.

For the songs of the birds, the laughter of children, and the words of human love.

As we give thanks for the gift of life and for the sounds that signal its goodness, we pray for those places within our lives where joy and gladness are not heard.

For cities in ruins and war-torn people and nations; for those held captive, physically or emotionally.

For those who are weary and weakened by troubles.

And those who are dying and frightened.

For ALL people, for our loved ones and for ourselves.

We pray, asking that we may know your stillness within us, O God, and that our lives may give voice to joy and gladness.

You are near us, Lord, as close to us as the child in the womb of her mother. And yet we wait in expectant hope for your coming. Attune our ears to hear your voice in all those we meet, and open our eyes to see your abiding presence in our world. Hear our prayers and make us turn to you that we may leap for joy at the sound of your saving Word, Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, forever and ever. **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

God makes peace within us.

Let us claim it.

God makes peace between us.

Let us share it with one another.

The peace of the Lord be always with you!

And also with you!

(After sharing the peace there will be opportunity for announcements, comments, or questions from the congregation)

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

(Here the bread, the wine, and the offerings of the people are collected and presented together at the altar, all standing)